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Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your request for a report relative to the bill (H. R. 1762) for the relief of Doctor Lázlo Tarnai, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary. This memorandum has been prepared from the Immigration and Naturalization Service files relating to the beneficiary by the Washington, D. C. Office of this Service, which has custody of those files.

The bill would grant the beneficiary permanent residence in the United States as of the date of its enactment, upon payment of the required visa fee. It would also direct that an appropriate visa number deduction be made.

The beneficiary is chargeable to the total number of natives of Czechoslovakia who may be admitted as immigrants and conditional entrants.

Sincerely,

Raymond F. Farrell
Commissioner

Enclosure

Honorable Emanuel Celler
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

CC: Department of State, Visa Office
Attention: Private Bill Staff

Visa issued Caracas, Venezuela, July 6, 1964.

See separate classified memorandum

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MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE H. R. 1762

The beneficiary, Doctor Laslo Tarnoi, was born on May 25, 1912, in Vagujhely, Hungary, a town within the present borders of Czechoslovakia. He was naturalized in Venezuela in 1953.

The beneficiary's name at birth was Laszlo Kostyal. Because it had such a Slavic sound he had his surname changed on October 25, 1937, to Tarnoi. He has been employed since September 20, 1966, as an associate professor of history at Pembroke State College, Pembroke, North Carolina. Since 1964 Dr. Tarnoi has also been a lecturer and visiting scholar at colleges in New York and Iowa. His present salary is \$9,000 per year. His assets consist of a \$5,000 advance by a publishing company on an historical novel he has written.

The beneficiary has been married three times but is now divorced. He married Elizabeth Strobl on May 15, 1938, in Budapest. They were divorced in Budapest in 1943. His second marriage was to Elizabeth Csizrok Varga in Budapest on July 2, 1944. They were divorced in Maracay, Venezuela on March 14, 1957. The beneficiary's first wife sought his assistance in getting out of Hungary. The beneficiary then made a brief trip to Hungary and they were remarried on October 22, 1958. A divorce was obtained in Mexico on December 16, 1961. At that time the beneficiary was living in Venezuela and his wife was living in Austria.

The beneficiary obtained a doctor's degree in law in 1934 in Hungary. Later he served as a judge in Budapest and was an associate professor of law at the University of Budapest. During World War II he was given a position in the Hungarian Foreign Office. Shortly before World War II ended he used his diplomatic passport to travel to Italy with his second wife. In 1948 he emigrated to Venezuela and lived there until coming to the United States in 1964.

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The beneficiary made trips to the United States in 1957, 1962 and 1963 as a visitor. In 1964 he entered three times as an exchange visitor. His last entry was on September 14, 1964. Extensions of stay were authorized to August 13, 1966. He is subject to the two-year foreign residence provision applicable to exchange visitors. A request for a waiver of this requirement was submitted to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare on behalf of the beneficiary by Pembroke State College on January 9, 1967. The application is still pending. The Committee will be advised of their decision.

The beneficiary has stated that he has been threatened by a terroristic organization, the Armed Forces of Liberation, (F.A.L.N.) and cannot return to Venezuela. Since the beneficiary has manifested an intention to remain in the United States permanently, deportation proceedings have been instituted against him on the ground that he has remained in the United States for a longer time than permitted.

Doctor Laslo Farnol was also the beneficiary of H. R. 17017, 89th Congress, which was not enacted.

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**MEMORANDUM OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION
RE H. R. 1762**

The Committee is referred to the Central Intelligence Agency for information concerning the beneficiary, Doctor Laslo Tarnoi.

The beneficiary was questioned on October 27, 1966, by an investigator from the Immigration and Naturalization Service. At that time, Doctor Tarnoi denied having been a member of the Nazi Party or the Communist Party but admitted membership in rightist organizations in Hungary. He claimed that he belonged to the Turul Party, an organization that sought land reform and reasonable socialism for Hungary. The beneficiary insisted that the Turul Party was neither a Nazi or Communist organization. Doctor Tarnoi denied that he persecuted Jews or that he was involved with forced labor battalions. He did admit dealing in the black-market, particularly in Genoa, Italy at the end of World War II. Doctor Tarnoi said that his work in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs consisted of obtaining food for members of the Ministry.

This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States, within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Sec. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

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